# Statute - AR

# **State Agencies:**

Ark. Code § 19-11-249. Cooperative purchasing

- (1) A public procurement unit may participate in, sponsor, conduct, or administer a cooperative purchasing agreement for the acquisition of commodities or services in accordance with an agreement entered into between the participants.
- (2) (A) A cooperative purchasing agreement is limited to commodities and services for which the public procurement unit may realize savings or material economic value, or both.
- (B) (i) For cooperative purchasing agreements entered into by a state agency, the State Procurement Director shall consider the economic justification for using a cooperative purchasing agreement when granting or withholding approval for the cooperative purchasing agreement.
- (ii) The director shall adopt rules to create a review policy outlining how the economic justification required under this section may be demonstrated, including without limitation a comparison of:
- (a) Current state contract pricing and the pricing under a cooperative purchasing agreement; or
- (b) Information obtained from a request for information and pricing under a cooperative purchasing agreement.
- (C) The director and the Secretary of the Department of Finance and Administration shall submit any request for the Office of State Procurement or the Department of Finance and Administration, respectively, to participate in a cooperative purchasing agreement to the Governor for approval.

#### Counties:

Ark. Code § 14-22-106. Purchases exempted from soliciting bids

The following listed commodities may be purchased without soliciting bids:

- (21) Goods or services if the quorum court has approved by resolution the purchase of goods or services through competitive bidding or procurement procedures used by:
- (A) The federal government or one (1) of its agencies;
- (B) Another state; or
- (C) An association of governments or governmental agencies including associations of governments or governmental agencies below the state level.

### **About Sourcewell:**

Sourcewell is a service cooperative created by the Minnesota legislature as a local unit of government. Minn. Const. art. XII, sec. 3. As a public corporation and agency, Sourcewell is governed by local elected municipal officials and school board members. Minn. Stat. § 123A.21 Subd. 4 (2017). Under its enabling statute, Sourcewell is explicitly authorized to provide cooperative purchasing services to eligible members. Id. at Subd. 7(23).

Sourcewell follows the competitive contracting law process to solicit, evaluate and award cooperative purchasing contracts for goods and services. Sourcewell cooperative purchasing contracts are made available through the joint exercise of powers law to member agencies. Minn. Stat. § 471.59 (2017). Membership in Sourcewell is available for all eligible state and local governments, education, higher education and nonprofit entities across North America. § 123A.21 at Subd. 3.

# Disclaimer:

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